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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

US Patent Application 09/549,130
Filed April 13, 2000
Title Knife Holder and Knife for a Microtome
Applicant Borosic
Art Unit 3724
Examiner Clark F. Dexter
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Attorney Docket (Z) 98045 P US

#6/Election
10/15/01
V. Hard

Box Response
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Dear Examiner Dexter:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 5, 2001, Applicant elects to continue examination on the basis of Group I, claims 1-6, 8 and 11, with traversal.

The groups of claims appear not to be independent and distinct. (37 CFR 1.142(a); MPEP 802.01)

There is a clearly dependent relationship between the claims in the groups. Referring to Figure 3, the mounting 8 is designed to fit in the depression 6 in the housing 14 in the knife holder 1 to hold the knife 3 in the depression 6 of the knife holder 1.

Moreover, the groups of claims appear not to be distinct. The groups are not capable or likely to be used separately.

(We note that claim 7 relates to the mounting 8 not the knife 3.)

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S Postal Service as a first class mail in an envelope with adequate postage addresses to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 5, 2001.

M. Robert Kestenbaum